

THE MISSION OF THE *Immaculata*

E-PUBLICATION OF THE MILITIA OF THE IMMACULATA, USA

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Announcing the MI National Home!

Dear Knights of the Immaculata,

Maria!

I want to take a short break in the editorial thread of our consideration of the MI and the New Evangelization.

It is with great joy that I announce to you that the MI National US has found a home in the diocese of Peoria, Illinois! We have been temporarily located in Santa Maria del Popolo Parish in Mundelein, Illinois, for a year and a half while praying and searching for a home with more permanent status. The Peoria site gives the MI a central location in the United States and an established presence of MI members who hopefully will be willing to provide the needed volunteer help in carrying out the MI National mission. This area also happens to be the home diocese of one of the great evangelizing figures of the last century, none other than Servant of God Archbishop Fulton Sheen.

For me, one of the most touching passages in the New Testament is the reaction of St. John to the gift of Mary to himself and the Church. The Gospel of St. John simply says the following: "And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home" (Jn 19:27). Can there be any more perfect description of what the MI National home ought to be than that of Our Lady's home and her movement's home?

In keeping with its modest size, the MI National Council has decided to call it the **Little Garden of the Immaculata**, in tribute to the City of the Immaculata St. Maximilian founded in Japan—Mugenzai no Sono, that is, the Garden of the Immaculata.

(continues on pg. 2)



"The goal of the MI (the abbreviation comes from the Latin Militia Immaculatae, or Militia of the Immaculata) is, in fact, to make sure that all become saints. In all this activity, what strikes the eye most of all is its Marian thrust. This is a consequence of a precise understanding of the mission of the Immaculata." (KW 1220)

Editorial

(cont. from pg. 1)

It is appropriate that the house be small, modest like the home at Nazareth, where the true image of every family discovers its truest form and where Jesus dwelled and was loved with a love beyond all telling. We will strive to make this house such a place.

May the Little Garden of the Immaculata become indeed the warm, generous home of those who strive with all their might to make it the living dwelling of hearts dedicated to the ultimate goal of total consecration: to make the Sacred Heart known and loved.

May the Little Garden in Peoria radiate the presence and love of the Immaculata: "Your name spreads like perfume." And may this "perfume" dispel the stench of evil that hovers over our land.

We moved into the house in the latter part of July and will have an open house on the feast of St. Maximilian, August 14. The Little Garden houses a relic of St. Maximilian brought all the way from Niepokalanow, Poland. St. Maximilian always wanted to visit America; he is here in the form of his relic.

Please continue to pray for the MI National Council, as we pray for all of you! Praised be Jesus Christ in His Immaculate Mother! Until next month, "Arise, let us be on our way!"

John W. Galten
National MI President

P.S. A few recommendations for spiritual reading. Ignatius Press recently published two books, which I think are linked. At first sight, a book by Cardinal Robert Sarah titled *The Power of Silence* and a book by Benedictine Abbot Jean-Charles Nault titled *The Noonday Devil: Acedia, the Unnamed Evil of Our Times* seem to be uncon-

nected but I would like to give you a few reasons for reading these as a pair.

Cardinal Sarah's book is an interview of himself and Abbot of the Carthusian monastery of Grand Chartreuse writes on the subject of silence as the ground of prayer and as a bulwark, a defense, against the tyranny of sound in our lives. Our modern life is supersaturated with chaotic noise and that noise enters into our souls, destroying the calm peace of soul, choking out the voice of God. Throughout the interview, answers from these exceptional men are gems of advice and counsel to help us establish this calm as the ground of deeper prayer.

Abbot Nault's book highlights what he sees as the return of an ancient sin—acedia, the unnamed evil of our times. This ancient temptation is first spoken of by the Desert Fathers, the monks and hermits who turned to the desert to find peace and solitude. Acedia was the temptation to disgust with the spiritual journey and the resultant paralysis of action to attain the things of God. This sin leads to sadness, crushing the joy of the Gospel and leaving a bitter taste about life. It causes us to seek joy and satisfaction in things and in ever more complex distractions, summed up in the phrase "amusing ourselves to death." This temptation and resulting sin leads us to "leave" our states in life for escape into that which is "more interesting"—not, however, the will of God for us. In particular, Abbot Nault's analysis of acedia in the life of lay people is particularly eye-opening and reveals the source of unhappiness in so many people's lives.

What is the connection of these two books? The loss of silence, resulting in a greatly reduced prayer life leads to the vain pursuit of anything but God—the beginning of discontent with spiritual things and falling into deepening sadness.



**Let us be united
in prayer during the
Novena in preparation
for St. Maximilian's
feast day (August 5-13).**

Novena Prayer may be
downloaded from
MI website - [Click Here](#)

**Send your
prayer intentions
to be placed
in the MI Book
of Intentions at the
feet of Our Lady
and St. Maximilian
Kolbe's first class relic:**

MINational@MissionImmaculata.com

Daily Holy Mass
will be offered throughout 2018
for the MI-USA
and all MI Members
at the City of the Immaculata
established by
St. Maximilian Kolbe
near Warsaw, Poland.

“No Greater Love..”

A reflection in preparation for St. Maximilian Kolbe’s feast day

By Most Rev. Donald J. Hying, Bishop of Gary, Indiana



A few months ago, the whole world was talking about Arnaud Beltrame, the 44 year-old lieutenant-colonel in the French gendarmerie who sacrificed his own life in order to allow the customers and workers held hostage by an Isis terrorist in a French supermarket to escape to freedom while he offered to take the place of a woman hostage. The terrorist slit Arnaud’s throat and shot him three times. He died the next day on the eve of Palm Sunday. He was given a hero’s welcome in Paris with a striking photo of President Macron leaning over the flag-draped casket in a gesture of profound homage.

Arnaud had been raised in a nominally Catholic home but experienced a powerful conversion back to the Faith ten years ago, receiving the Sacraments and cultivating a profound prayer life. He went on a pilgrimage to a shrine in Brittany dedicated to St. Anne, praying to find a good and holy wife. He soon met Marielle, a devoutly Catholic veterinary surgeon who had worked with the Franciscans in New York serving people with disabilities and also helped with a hotline for people struggling with addictions. They were already civilly married but were to be married in the Church this summer.

In the wake of Arnaud’s death, she said, “The funeral of my husband will take place during Holy Week, after his death on a Friday just before Palm Sunday and this is not insignificant in my eyes. It will be with a great deal of hope that I am waiting to celebrate the Easter Resurrection with him.” The female hostage whom Beltrame saved was married with a young daughter. She had recently lost her job and had become a cashier at the supermarket where the killing took place.

Arnaud’s life and death was one of faith, love, service, bravery, valor and sacrifice. His Catholicism marked him as a man who radically sacrificed himself for others, making the ultimate gift of self in order to save life in the face of a fanatical hatred that only seeks to destroy and murder innocent people.

Like St. Maximilian Kolbe, this gallant young Frenchman exchanged his life for someone he did not even know in a

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Bishop Donald J. Hying

moment of violent peril, submitting to a horrific death in order to save the lives of others. Think of John’s Gospel when Jesus says, “There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for a friend.” Here it was total strangers!

This tragic but inspiring narrative powerfully reminds us that, when we choose to love others radically as Christ did, even to the point of death on the Cross, God floods mercy and redemption into the most evil, dark and violent situations. God willing, we will never face the heart-breaking choices that martyrs like Arnaud, St. Maximilian and so many saints in the history of the Church did, but we have the ability to change so many situations of despair, sadness, conflict and division by choosing to sacrifice, forgive, go the extra mile, carry another’s burden, joyfully giving away our treasure, time, understanding and faith.

As we approach St. Maximilian’s feast, on August 14, we are given the opportunity to see reflected in his life the startling truth we celebrate each Sunday: that Jesus had not thrown His young life away on the Cross, that this ultimate sacrifice of self in a horrific crucifixion had broken the power of sin and death forever; the Resurrection had made the scourging, the crown of thorns, the Way of the Cross, the spitting and humiliations, the final bloody surrender suspended high in the spring air on a criminal’s gibbet all radically worth it!

When we were hostages to the powers of evil, Jesus bravely rushed in and offered to take our place. In the power of his religious conversion, Arnaud, like St. Maximilian, understood this essential dynamic of Jesus’ love profoundly. He was able to do the same, because Christ had already offered his life for us.

Do we dare to believe this? That if we sacrifice not only our comforts, privileges and even seeming necessities that God will take care of us? That if we truly love on a radically heroic level, we can change the course of human history, re-directing hearts to the Kingdom of God? That nothing we do for the Lord and others is ever a waste, a mistake, a miscalculation, something we will regret? The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass reminds us that no evil darkness, irrational hatred, overwhelming sin, horrific murder of a noble hero, not even the crucifixion of the Son of God can destroy, quench or prevent the rising of new life in Christ.

The Kingdom of God cannot be stopped, any more than we can forbid the beautiful season of spring to eventually swallow the harsh cold of the most bitter winter and prepares for summer harvest. I have always liked the Easter song, “Now the Green Blade Rises”:

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, wheat that in the dark earth many years has lain; Love lives again, that with the dead has been: Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

In the grave they laid Him, Love whom we had slain, thinking that He’d never wake to life again, Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen; Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

Consecrate Your Family to Mary!

By Antonella Di Piazza, FKMI



“Why should we consecrate our family to Mary?” you may ask. A few simple facts will shed light on your question.

- Read the Gospel account of the visitation of Mary to the home of Elizabeth and Zechariah (Lk 1:39-56). Our Blessed Lady is not only the first Tabernacle of history and the first missionary, as she went in haste into the hill country while carrying the Savior in her womb, but she was also the first to reach out to a family and to bring Jesus in their midst. As Elizabeth testified, upon hearing Mary’s greeting baby John leapt for joy in her womb. When Our Lady enters a home, she brings always and everywhere the joy that only the living presence of Jesus can ensure. She kindles a genuine love for His Eucharistic Presence.

- Ponder the nativity of Jesus in the poverty of Bethlehem, surrounded by the loving care of Mary and Joseph, the humble adoration of the shepherds and the glorious singing of the angels (Lk 2:1-20 and Mt 2). Mary gave birth to the Savior of the world, wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and offered Him to be acknowledged and adored by the humble and the wise (Mt 2: 9-11). When the door of your family opens to Our Lady, she will give birth to Jesus anew within your family. Like the shepherds and the Magi, you will recognize the King of Love and learn from her to do Him homage by following the light of Truth and by loving and serving Him in others.
- Think about the hardship the holy

family endured during their unexpected flight into Egypt and their stay in a foreign country (Mt 2:13-15). Consider the anguish Mary and Joseph experienced when the young Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, unknown to his parents (Lk 2:41-52). Mary and her holy husband Joseph know by experience the hardships of family life. When as a family you consecrate yourselves to her, you allow her to teach you how to walk with humble faith and active love through the happy as well as the hard times, treasuring all things in your hearts, offering them up, and detecting the whisperings of God as He leads you along His paths in daily life.

- Imagine being at the wedding feast of Cana (Jn 2:1-12). “The mother of Jesus was there,” St. John highlights. When the wine is about to run out, she is the first to notice and to take action. She turns to the servants with the words which are her testament: “Do whatever he tells you.” Once you consecrate yourselves individually and as a family to Mary, you can be sure that she will not only “be there” at the crucial times of your life, but will assist you in keeping your eyes focused on Jesus and your ears attuned to His voice so as to choose and do “whatever he tells you” in all circumstances and situations. And thus your family will find joy and peace. Not only that. She will invite you to become her instrument in bringing Jesus to other families, relatives and friends, neighbors and acquaintances, by your witness and love, prayer and service.

- Follow her at the foot of the Cross (Jn 19:25-30) and hear Jesus’ last words, “Behold your son.” “Behold your mother.” By those solemn words, Jesus gave her as a Mother to each of His disciples forever and throughout all ages. Contemplating this extraordinary event, St. Maximilian broke out in gratitude: “Your Heart, O Lord, inflamed with love for me, suggested to You another gift, yes, yet one more gift!... You asked us to become children, if we wish to enter the heavenly kingdom [cf. Mt 18:3]. You well know that a child needs a mother:

You Yourself established this law of love. Your goodness, Your mercy, therefore, created for us a Mother, the personification of Your goodness and infinite love. From the cross, on Golgotha, You offered her to us and us to her...” (KW 1145).

- The beloved Apostle John took her into his home, which became her own home. He took her into our common home, the Church, so we rightly call her Mother of the Church, as Blessed Pope Paul VI stated. She is also the mother of the domestic Church, the family, the primary community of love and life. There love is experienced, exchanged and learned, life is born, nourished, cherished, defended and protected, until it is born anew into Eternal life. St. Maximilian envisioned that the whole world should become a home or a city of Mary, where “God the Father is the Father, the Immaculata is the Mother and Mistress of the house, Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar is the firstborn Son and our Brother. All younger brothers and sisters, for their part, strive to imitate their elder brother [Jesus] in loving and giving homage to God and the Immaculata, our common parents.... Even heaven is a Niepokalanów [City of the Immaculata], because even there you have the same Father, the same Mother, and the same elder Brother with His body” (cf. KW 1284).

As you consecrate your family to Mary, your home becomes Mary’s home, or, if you will, a miniature city or garden of the Immaculata, like the house of Nazareth.

Do not hesitate to let her into your home. Allow her to make it a dwelling place for the Sacred Heart of Jesus and thus a beacon of hope that shines brightly in the world!

P.S. See MI Family Consecration Prayer on page 6.

Invite family and friends to be consecrated to Our Lady!

Reflection on August MI Intention

O Immaculata please intercede that, following St. Maximilian's example, the desire to give everything for Christ may reign in every heart.

Now someone approached him and said, "Teacher, what good must I do to gain eternal life?" ... Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to (the) poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." (Mt 19:16.21-22)

As we read this Gospel account we may dismiss it thinking we are neither young nor wealthy. However, it might have something in store for us. Often we hear that young people are prone to making radical choices with great enthusiasm which, if enlightened by the Faith, may lead them to the desire to give up everything for Christ. When we feel less than young and enthusiastic we may do well to ponder this encounter of Jesus with the rich young man, because as we grow older we should in fact become poor – poor of self and rich of God. The words St. Maximilian addressed to one of his confreres are directed to us as well: "I plead that you not worry when troubles come, but give everything without limits to the Immaculata, do what you can peacefully, be confident, and put unlimited trust in her." (KW 429). Precisely when faced with setbacks and difficulties, offering them all up and giving ourselves to the Lord through Mary results in the ability to walk lightly and speedily toward the goal our life and mission.

Jesus challenges us to free our hearts from worldly attachments, not simply to get rid of excessive material goods, in light of the higher value of self-giving. Total consecration to the Immaculata helps to embrace this call.

Our Lady herself leads to understand that self-giving means to renew constantly our commitment to de-

spoil ourselves first and foremost of ourselves. One of the Polish verbs Fr. Kolbe used to express our total offering to Mary was *oddać się*, that is, to give ourselves back, because we do not belong to ourselves but to God.

One further step on could be to strive to make of this awareness and desire a virtue, so that the disposition to self-giving may truly reign in our hearts and permeate our entire lives. This happens when we do not think much of it because our giving all for Christ has become second nature. At that point, an MI Knight is such not by name but to the very core. The desire to give has become part of his or her spiritual DNA, as an irresistible necessity to let one's life be led by the love of God. This is of course is a life-long journey toward a virtuous life, made possible and sustained by the grace of God, Who rewards our desires even when we fall short. Moreover, as we walk the talk, our striving can be contagious for others.

Let us not get discouraged then when difficulties arise, first of all in our own hearts. The Immaculata's arms are always outstretched to receive and transform our littleness and to give it to Christ as a gift of untold value.

(From the MI International Office)

MI Local News from around the country



MI Domus Mariae Village Houston, Texas

In June we had a get-together with MI Member, Fr. Marcin Buntow, OFM Conv., from the Conventual Franciscan friary in Krakow, Poland, where St. Maximilian Kolbe had been stationed! He was a summer replacement for the pastor. We prayed a decade of the Rosary, talked about the MI lead by Fr. Marcin and read a writing of St. Maximilian Kolbe's, "To the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus through the Immaculata." It was very informative. Everyone enjoyed it and we look forward to Fr. Marcin return! <http://www.midomusmariae.com/> <http://www.midomusmariae.wordpress.com/> Contact: info@MIDomusMariae.com

MI Villages at St. Mary's Parish West Haven, Utah

In preparation for the Feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe on Tuesday, August 14, the Militia of the Immaculata at St. Mary Catholic Church, 4050 South 3900 West, West Haven, Utah, will offer a class on Total Consecration to the Immaculata on Sunday, August 5th from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. and a Rite of Total Consecration, followed by a reception on Sunday, August 12 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Individual and family consecrations will be offered. All are welcome to either event. For more information, please call 801-621-7961.

Fr. Kolbe Missionaries of the Immaculata - Spes Nostra MI Center, California

Rite of Consecration at the Mass in honor of St. Maximilian (all are invited) on August 13 at 6:00 p.m., at St. Christopher Catholic Church, West Covina, California. For more information, please call 626-917-0040.

My Time in Mugenzai no Sono, Japan

By Br. Don Bassana, OFM Conv.



Recently I had the privilege to visit the “Mugenzai no Sono” (translated: the Garden of the Immaculata) friary which was founded by St. Maximilian Kolbe in Nagasaki. From street level it sits approximately 15 stories up a mountainside. Continuing up the mountain walking approximately another 13 stories there are five stations placed along the ascent with pictures for meditations on the mysteries of the Rosary until one finally arrives at the Lourdes Grotto which St. Maximilian had built. In 1984, the Vatican numbered this Lourdes Grotto on the list of official pilgrimages sites for the Catholic Church. Once I reached the top, just under Our Lady of Lourdes was a spigot of clean cool water continually flowing from a deep well to refresh the pilgrims after the long ascent. It is said that miraculous healings have occurred at these waters. After having some water, I quieted my mind and listened.

I became attuned to the competing sounds from below and from atop. Below was the traffic noise and the sense of scurrying about chasing after what the world considers important. The sound from atop of the mountain surrounding the Lourdes Grotto, was the music of creation. I listened to the birds singing and watched the butterflies as they fluttered across the sky and landing on beautifully blooming flowers. Insects were creating this high-pitched tone, which seemed to flow in rhythmic harmony from a few low tones to the sounds of many joining in and sustaining a long high tone.

Why all this scurrying about below? For many the purpose of our desire for money is but to have a better standard of living. There is nothing wrong with it at all, as long as it does not become a false god we turn to, forgetting our true needs. Romans 14:17 reminds us: “The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of justice, peace, and the joy that is given by the Holy Spirit.” I know we are not all called to a consecrated life, professing the vow of evangelical poverty. So how best may souls, living in the world, live a life with God first and one’s family and personal needs reliant upon His Divine Providence? How do we help the many souls we encounter to care for them-

selves in a manner which is congruent with God’s Will?

Then my mind turned to deeper thoughts and I recognized that our Franciscan spirituality is very much experiential and incarnational. Thoughts flooded my mind about how God became man so that we might be “partakers of the divine nature” - a union humanity is allowed to experience as a taste of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Afterwards, I pondered how this deep connection is meant to be a daily experience, lived within the world and yet keeping our gaze focused on the Kingdom of God. I’ll share an experience on this trip that in some ways embodies what is meant to be daily experienced.

At the end of our travels, after the group I was journeying with returned home, I spent my last four days in retreat at Mugenzai no Sono friary then flew to Korea for a one-day visit. I arrived in Korea at 11 o’clock at night. The lobby of the youth hostel was empty and the lights in all of the surrounding business were off. Looking around I saw only Korean language and one sign in English. I laughed, took a picture then put away my phone and prayed to Mary. “Mama Mary I’m in a foreign country and don’t know the language and in desperate need of help; please send me someone who speaks English.” After less than two minutes, the second person to walk through (at 11 p.m.) speaks a little English and she offers to help. While she is looking up the telephone number I need, a man walks in and asked if we needed help. It turns out he has the number on speed dial and in less than five minutes I am walking into my room.

For me this experience is verification that Mary will hold you by the hand and guide you to her Son. We need only be docile to her promptings and the promptings of her spouse the Holy Spirit. That is how we walk with the deep sense of connection in this busy life: by surrendering and saying: “I don’t know the way: lead me Mama Mary to The Way.”

In surrender to and union with the Immaculata.

MI Family Consecration to the Immaculata

O Immaculata, Queen of heaven and earth, our life, our sweetness, and our hope, on this day we the (Family Surname) family come before you to consecrate ourselves to you as your possession and property. We praise God because He has brought us together to give ourselves to you our Mother. We do this because Jesus said on the Cross, “Behold your Mother.”

We need you, Mother Mary, to help us to be a truly Catholic family. Enter into our family life. Repeat to us the words you spoke at Cana, “Do whatever He tells you.” Help us to overlook one another’s faults, to forgive as Jesus has forgiven us, and to love one another as Our Lord has asked us to love.

Please use our family to crush the head of the serpent. Ask your Spouse, St. Joseph, Protector of the universal Church, to keep us one in mind and heart with your Son’s Vicar, the Pope. Today you have become the Queen of our hearts and home. May our home be a “City of the Immaculata,” where the Sacred Heart of Jesus reigns forever. Amen.

V. Allow me to praise you, O sacred Virgin.

R. Give me strength against your enemies.



A Prayer to Our Mother and Queen on Her Feast

O Immaculata, Queen of Heaven and earth, I know I am unworthy to approach you, to fall on my knees before you with my face to the ground, but because I love you so much, I dare beg you to be good enough to deign to tell me who you are.

For I wish to know you more and more, endlessly more, and love you more and more ardently, with bound-

less zeal. Also, I wish to reveal to other souls who you are, that an ever increasing number of souls may know you ever more perfectly and love you ever more ardently, so that you become the Queen of all the hearts that beat and will beat on earth at any time, and that as soon as possible, as soon as possible.

Some still do not know your name at all. Others, plunged in the mud of

immorality, dare not look up to you; still others believe they have no need of you in order to achieve the purpose of their lives. Yet there are also some whom Satan—who refused to recognize you as his Queen and was thus turned from an angel into a devil—prevents from bending their knees before you.

Many are those who love you, who are fond of you, but how few are those who for love of you are willing to do anything, to labor, to suffer, and even to sacrifice their lives.

When will you, O Lady, reign supreme in all hearts and in each one individually?

When will all the inhabitants of the earth acknowledge you as Mother, the Heavenly Father as Father, and in doing so finally feel like brothers?

St. Maximilian M. Kolbe

MI Formation By John Galten

Some thoughts on the coincidence of the essential MI components and the CCC’s treatment of the *Marian* element. As we begin to examine it in the new Catechism, we are confronted with a substantial number of Catechism references (running more than a page of Index topics!).

Obviously we can’t cover all of them, but we will concentrate on Our Lady’s place in Salvation history and her relationship to the Church. Both these topics occur prominently in the documents of Vatican II, chiefly in Chapter 8 of the Document on the Church. *Lumen Gentium* is a document and chapter that should be familiar to all Catholics, but in particular to her Knights. This is the contemporary Church reflecting on Mary and her place in the plan of God and her relationship to the Church (ourselves) of this time. These truths about the Church are the result of the Holy Spirit enlightening us as to what the mystery of Mary is and how we should reflect her to the world.

In the Introduction to Chapter 8 of *Lumen Gentium* the Church in exultation proclaims this mystery of Mary: “The Virgin Mary, who at the message of the angel received the Word of God in her heart and in her body and gave Life to the world, is acknowledged and honored as being truly the Mother of God and Mother of the Redeemer. Redeemed by reason of the merits of her Son and united to Him by a close and indissoluble tie, she is endowed with the high office and dignity of being the Mother of the Son of God, by which account she is also the beloved daughter of the Father and the temple of the Holy Spirit. Because of this gift of sublime grace she far surpasses all creatures, both in heaven and on earth. At the same time, however, because she belongs to the offspring of Adam she is one with all those who are to be saved. She is ‘the mother of the members of Christ . . . having cooperated by charity that faithful might be born in the Church, who are members of

that Head.’ Wherefore she is hailed as a pre-eminent and singular member of the Church, and as its type and excellent exemplar in faith and charity. The Catholic Church, taught by the Holy Spirit, honors her with filial affection and piety as a most beloved mother.”

In this magnificent passage the Church in concentrated form gives the kernel of Mother’s greatness which will be amplified throughout the Catechism under the section of the Creed, Liturgy, Life in Christ, and Christian Prayer. This amplification or development of this quote from *Lumen Gentium* is most helpful to ourselves as her Knights that we might know and love her better, and be able to explain her to others.

So, you see, knowledge of her in contemporary terminology is the seed of our missionary work. You might pray and meditate on the quote from *Lumen Gentium* as a stimulus to faster inspire your reading of the Catechism.

MI RESOURCES

Available from the MI National Center



Disseminate the Miraculous Medal and introduce Our Lady and the MI to others!

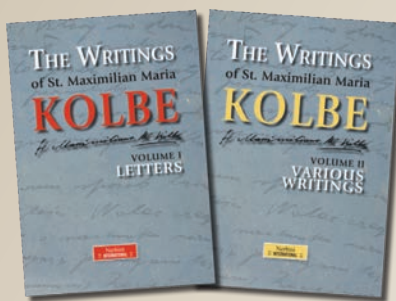
Miraculous medals and various MI brochures can be requested from the MI National Office at 331-223-5564 or via email: MINational@MissionImmaculata.com

The Writings of St. Maximilian Kolbe

VOLUME I: LETTERS • VOLUME II: VARIOUS WRITINGS

The Definitive English Edition!

The Martyr of Charity, St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe (1894-1941), before his death in the Auschwitz concentration camp, had a full and fruitful life. The Polish-born Franciscan Friar had spent the previous twenty-three years as a priest, evangelizer, media mogul, social commentator, missionary and religious reformer. His life's work cut short at age 47, St. Kolbe nonetheless left behind an impressive body of writings. In the 1950s the English-speaking world first began reading bits and pieces of those writings translated from the original Polish, Italian and Latin. Now, at long last, devotees and scholars alike can find the entire wide-ranging array of those writings collected together in a two-volume compendium, published by Nerbini International.



Now Available in e-Book Format!



"I heartily welcome this first English critical edition of The Writings of St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe. Its pages are suffused with Christian hope. Under the general editorship of Antonella Di Piazza, the text has meticulous footnotes, comprehensive indices, and a brilliant introduction by Fr. Giuseppe Simbula, OFM Conv. Because the frenetic pace of St. Kolbe's active ministry afforded him no time to compose a theological Summa, this edition assembles together the wide scope of his extant writings into a unified synthesis. It represents a virtual magnum opus of Kolbean thought at one and the same time pastoral, anthropological, philosophical, spiritual, ascetical and mystical. "These two volumes give vigorous new life to the prophetic voice of truth of one of the greatest saints of our times."

— Fr. James McCurry, OFM Conv

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Check regularly the MI website **MissionImmaculata.com** for updates, resources, special events and more!

Support Our Lady's Work by Helping the MI **DONATE HERE**

"If you love the Immaculata, if your heart burns with gratitude to her, offer your contribution to this work, according to your capabilities! It is worth making such an effort! The Immaculata will not forget it! May all MI Knights be zealous in winning the world over to the Immaculata!"
St. Maximilian Kolbe